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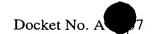
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THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1	1.	A digital set-top box for minimizing subscriber-perceived digital video
2	channel tuning delay, comprising:	

- a first decoder;
- 4 a second decoder; and
- a look-ahead tuning logic in communication with said first decoder and said second decoder, wherein said look-ahead tuning logic instructs said second decoder to decode a television channel predicted by said look-ahead tuning logic.
 - 2. The digital set-top box of claim 1, wherein said look-ahead tuning logic comprises a channel prediction logic, wherein said channel prediction logic compiles a list of television channels, and wherein said look-ahead tuning logic selects said predicted television channel from said list of television channels.
 - 3. The digital set-top box of claim 2, wherein said list of television channels is created based in part on a current channel decoded by said first decoder.
- The digital set-top box of claim 2, further comprising a memory in
 communication with said look-ahead tuning logic, where said memory stores a
 historical log of channels recently decoded by said first decoder.
- The digital set-top box of claim 4, wherein said list of television channels is
 created based in part upon a said historical log of channels.
- 1 6. The digital set-top box of claim 2, further comprising a weighting database,
 2 wherein said weighting database orders said television channels to generate said
 3 list of television channels.





- 1 7. The digital set-top box of claim 1, further comprising a decoder manager,
- 2 wherein said decoder manager determines if said second decoder is available to
- 3 decode said television channel predicted by said look-ahead tuning logic.

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- 1 8. The digital set-top box of claim 1, further comprising a prediction
- 2 evaluator, wherein said prediction evaluator determines if said television channel
- 3 predicted by said look-ahead tuning logic matches a subsequent subscriber
- 4 requested television channel.

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- 9. The digital set-top box of claim 1, wherein said look-ahead tuning logic
- 2 comprises a feedback loop.

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- 10. A method executed in digital set-top box having at least two decoders,
- 2 comprising:
- 3 receiving a request from a subscriber to view a first television channel;
- 4 decoding said first television channel using a first decoder;
- 5 predicting a next television channel to be requested by said subscriber; and
- 6 decoding said predicted next television channel using a second decoder.

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- 1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising determining if said predicted
- 2 next television channel matches a subsequent subscriber requested television
- 3 channel.

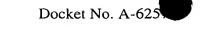
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- 1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of predicting a next television
- 2 channel is based in part upon the subscriber's most frequently watched television
- 3 channels.

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- 1 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of predicting a next television
- 2 channel is based in part upon the identity of said first television channel.

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- 1 14. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of predicting a next television
- 2 channel comprises compiling a list of candidate television channels, wherein said
- 3 next television channel is chosen from said list of candidate television channels.

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- 1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising organizing said list of
- 2 candidate television channels based upon weights generated by evaluating the
- 3 accuracy of past predictions of television channels to be selected by said
- 4 subscriber.

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- 16. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of determining the
- 2 determining the resources available for tuning to said predicted next television
- 3 channel.

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- 17. The method of claim 10, further comprising tracking said prediction to
- 2 determine the accuracy of said prediction.

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- 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising using said accuracy of said
- 2 prediction to predict subsequent television channels to be requested by said
- 3 subscriber.

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- 1 19. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of storing the identity
- 2 of said predicted television channel in memory.

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- 20. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of storing a historical
- 2 log of television channels requested by said subscriber.

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- 1 21. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of instantaneously
- 2 presenting said predicted next television channel for viewing by a subscriber.